

1: Holmberg--50 [2]
116, 596, 611

(1941-42), 1950

Siriono

"Besides being a member of a nuclear family, every Siriono also belongs to a larger kin group, the matrilineal extended family. Such unilineal kin groupings as moieties, clans, and sibs are not found among the Siriono. Because of matrilineal residence, groups of matrilineal relatives tend to cluster together in the house and to form extended families. An extended family is made up of all females in a direct line of descent, plus their spouses and their unmarried children."

1: Holmberg--50 [3]
116, 583, 596

(1941-42) 1950

Siriono

"The primary function of the extended family is economic. While the nuclear family is the basic economic unit, considerable cooperation in the performance of duties also takes place within the extended family. Such cooperation is often heightened by the fact that brothers frequently marry sisters and thus continue the cooperative role they played in their family of orientation."

"The distribution of food rarely extends beyond the extended family. Members of an extended family cooperate to build that portion of the dwelling which they occupy. They sometimes plant gardens in common. A woman often gathers food with her sisters or her mother, and when brothers are members of the same extended family they frequently hunt together. Sometimes the entire extended family leaves the band for a while as a unit and goes on a hunting and gathering expedition.

The extended family is generally dominated by the oldest active male. Although his power is not supreme like that of the father in a nuclear family, younger members of the extended family usually pay heed to his words. The head of an extended family, however, does not possess any title, such as that of chief."

"In the 5 extended families who made up the entire band of Aćíba-eóko there were 17 nuclear families, all of whom were monogamous except 4. In the 4 extended families who made up the entire band of Eantádu there were 14 nuclear families, all of whom were monogamous except 3. In both bands the chiefs maintained more than one wife; Aćíba-eóki had two, while Eantádu had three. The total population of the band of Aćíba-eóki was 94. Of this number, 25 were adult males, 30 adult females, 18 preadult males, and 21 preadult females. The total population of the band of Eantádu was 58; 17 were adult males, 19 adult females, 10 preadult males, and 12 preadult females. The average number of children per family, considering both bands as a whole, was about 2; in the band of Aćíba-eóko it was 2.3, while in the band of Eantádu it was 1.6. Since the latter band had had considerable contact with the whites, a number of their children had been stolen from them."